

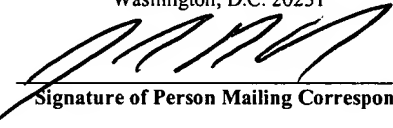


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1-14-03
H.F.L.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 09/429,939
Filed: 10/29/99
Applicant: Authier
For: Water Freeze Control for Hot Tub Spa

Examiner: Prunner, Kathleen J.
Group Art: 3751

<p align="center">CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</p> <p>I certify that this document is being deposited on <u>12/26/02</u> with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the:</p> <p align="center">Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231</p> <p align="center"></p> <p align="center">Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence</p> <p align="center">John R. Ross, III Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence</p>
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Amendment D

RECEIVED

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

JAN 07 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir,

This letter is in response to Office Action dated 6/27/02. Please find attached to this letter a request for a three month extension of time. Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend Claim 26 as follows:

26. (amended) A freeze control system for a spa, wherein the spa is surrounded by ambient air having an ambient air temperature, said freeze control system comprising:
- A. a spa tub containing tub water having a tub water temperature,
 - B. spa piping for circulating water to and from said spa tub,
 - C. a heating element for producing heated water,
 - D. at least one water pump for pumping the heated water,
 - E. a first sensor for detecting said tub water temperature,
 - F. a second sensor for detecting said ambient air temperature, and